

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 18, 2009

His Excellency Hu Jintao
President, People's Republic of China
c/o His Excellency Zhou Wen Zhong
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Embassy of the People's Republic of China
2300 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20008

Dear President Hu,

We are writing to urge your support for reestablishing the humanitarian lifeline that the Government of Sudan has severed by its decision to evict 13 international aid organizations and 6,500 aid workers from Darfur.

As you must be aware, this decision puts over one million Darfuris at immediate risk of starvation and other preventable deaths. The organizations which have had their operating licenses revoked provided over 40% of the humanitarian assistance in Darfur. Their contributions simply cannot be replaced by the organizations left operating in the area.

The United Nations Security Council has been steadfast in its desire to end the conflict in Darfur, yet Sudan continues to take actions that only inflame it. Despite the inability of the Sudanese government, rebel movements, and the international community to bring an end to the conflict, the world's largest humanitarian relief operation has served as a lifeline to the Darfuris. Now that lifeline has been put at risk for purely political reasons by the Sudanese government. The Sudanese regime must be clearly and forcefully told that endangering millions of civilians by expelling aid organizations is unacceptable. Its unconscionable action must be reversed.

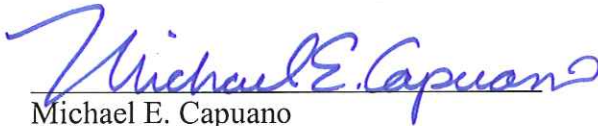
We find it extremely disappointing that your government chose to interject politics into a purely humanitarian issue by obstructing a United Nations Security Council presidential statement which called for the reinstatement of the humanitarian organizations expelled by Sudan. The Security Council must not accept Khartoum's cynical effort to trade humanitarian access for a suspension of justice. The Security Council must condemn Khartoum's blatant violation of international humanitarian law, and demand that it reverse its expulsion order. The Security Council must also continue to support the International Criminal Court investigation which it authorized in Resolution 1593. These are two separate and distinct issues, and must remain so.

In the past, you have expressed your desire to see an end to the conflict in Darfur. That end will not be hastened by cutting off aid to a quarter of Darfur's population and leaving more than one million Darfuris immediately vulnerable to disease and starvation. Nor

will it be hastened by acquiescing to the Sudanese government's threats against its own people.

The people of Darfur have suffered enough. Please send an unambiguous message to the Government of Sudan that its actions against the humanitarian organizations are unacceptable, and support efforts at the UN Security Council to ensure that the humanitarian lifeline is reestablished.

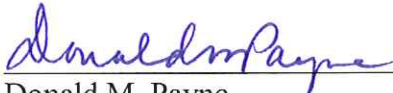
Sincerely,



Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress



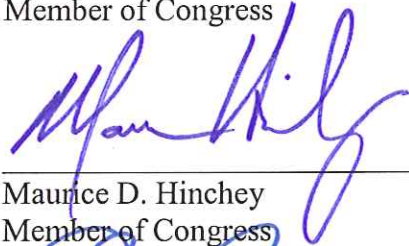
Michael T. McCaul
Member of Congress



Donald M. Payne
Member of Congress



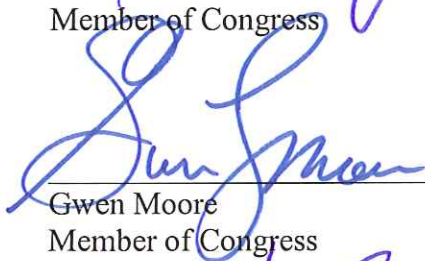
Frank R. Wolf
Member of Congress



Maurice D. Hinchey
Member of Congress



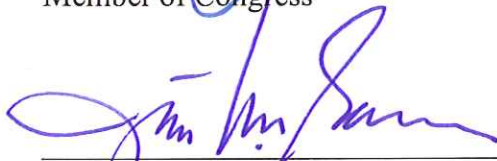
John W. Olver
Member of Congress



Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



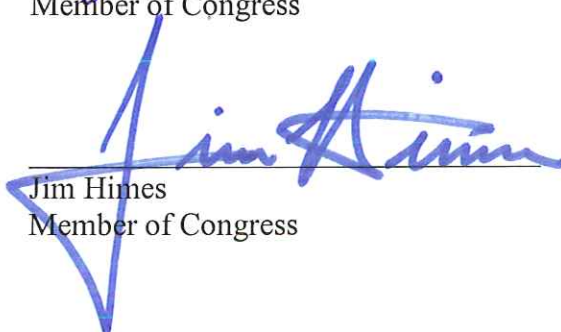
Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Tom Perriello
Member of Congress



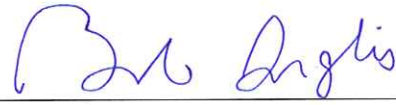
Jim Himes
Member of Congress



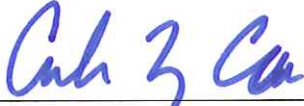
Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



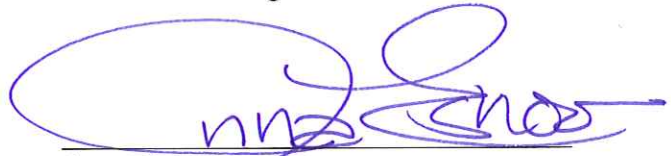
Michael Honda
Member of Congress



Bob Inglis
Member of Congress



Ahn "Joseph" Cao
Member of Congress



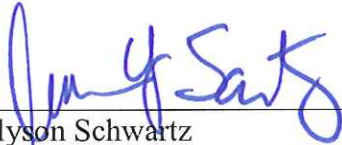
Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



Jeff Fortenberry
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Lois Capps
Member of Congress



Allyson Schwartz
Member of Congress



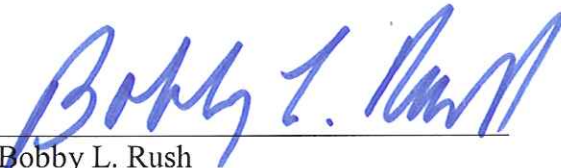
Ellen O. Tauscher
Member of Congress



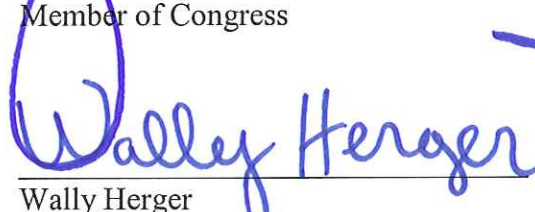
Thaddeus G. McCotter
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



Wally Herger
Member of Congress



Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress



Jackie Speier
Member of Congress



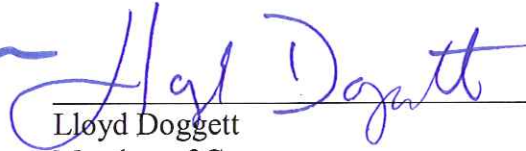
Michael F. Doyle
Member of Congress



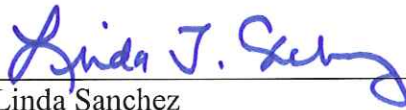
Mazie K. Hirono
Member of Congress



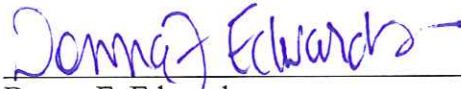
Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



Linda Sanchez
Member of Congress



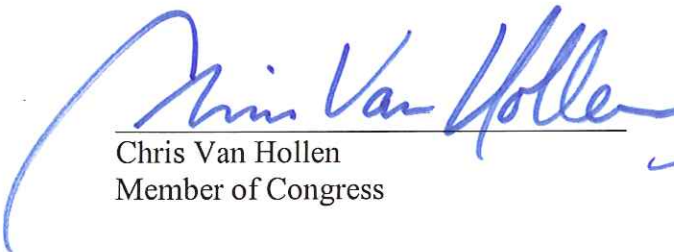
Donna F. Edwards
Member of Congress



Jim McDermott
Member of Congress



Trent Franks
Member of Congress



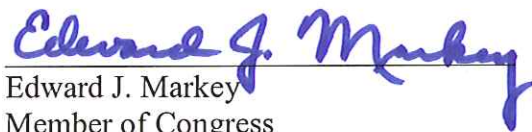
Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



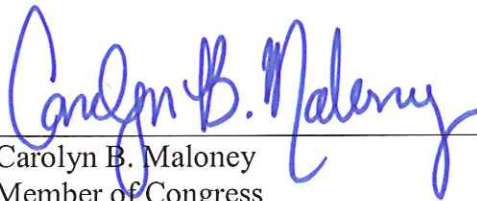
Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



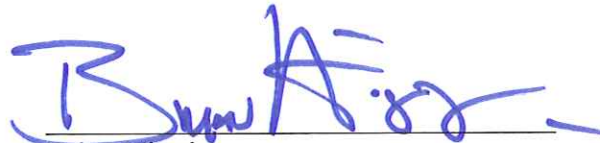
Jerry Moran
Member of Congress



Edward J. Markey
Member of Congress



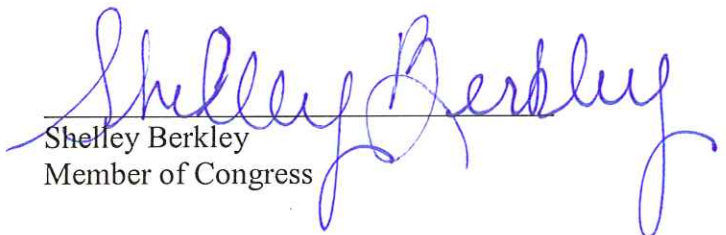
Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



Mike Rogers
Member of Congress



Shelley Berkley
Member of Congress



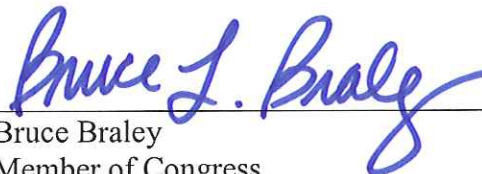
John Boozman
Member of Congress



Joe Pitts
Member of Congress



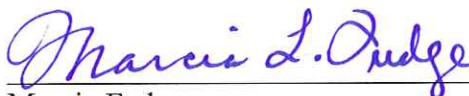
Brad Miller
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Bruce Braley
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Tammy Baldwin
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Marcia Fudge
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Lynn Woolsey
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Adam B. Schiff
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Louise M. Slaughter
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Bob Filner
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Rush Holt
Member of Congress



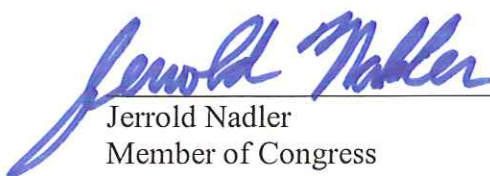
Wm. Lacy Clay
Member of Congress



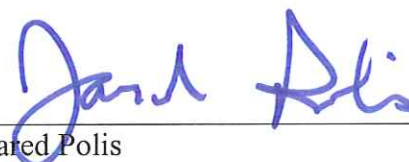
Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress



Mike McIntyre
Member of Congress



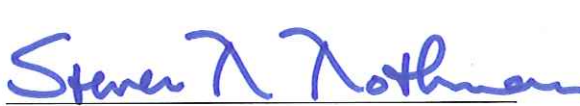
Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress

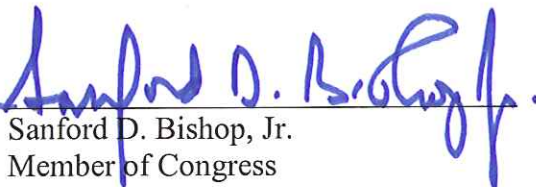


Jared Polis
Member of Congress


Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress


Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress


Steven R. Rothman
Member of Congress


Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress


Sam Farr
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison
Member of Congress


Tim Murphy
Member of Congress


Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress

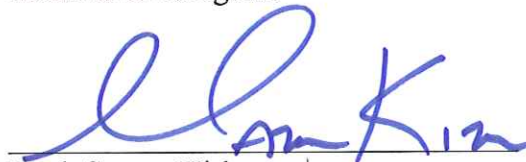

Scott Garrett
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Timothy H. Bishop
Member of Congress



George Miller
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Chris Smith
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Al Green
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Mark Steven Kirk
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Barney Frank
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Bart Gordon
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William D. Delahunt
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Timothy J. Walz
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